

S.No.	Commodity	Year	
		1999-2000	2000-01
11.	Sesamum	1205	1300
12.	Nigerseed	915	1025

Suicide by cotton growers in Andhra Pradesh

124. SHRI K. RAHMAN KHAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that the specter of suicides by the cotton growers of Warangal and Karimunj districts of Andhra Pradesh is looming because of crop failure;

(b) whether it is a fact that some cotton growers have already taken the extreme step in last few months;

(c) if so, what are the details in this regard;

(d) whether Government are aware that the crop failure is attributable to spurious supply of seeds by some private companies in the State; and

(e) if so, what preventive and remedial steps have been taken to safeguard the farmers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) to (e) It is primarily the responsibility of the State Government to take necessary steps in this regard. As per information received from the State Government in November, 2000, 14 farmers in Warangal district resorted to suicides during the current financial year after their crops, including the cotton crop, failed. The information pertaining to Karimunj district is not available. The State Government reportedly provided input subsidy to the affected farmers on 50% subsidy basis not exceeding Rs. 500 per ha. and limited to 2 ha. per farmer.